

Weekly Newscast Lesson Plan



Learning English with CBC is a joint project with
CBC Calgary, CBC Edmonton and the Government of Alberta



Objectives:

- To develop listening skills
- To increase vocabulary
- To increase knowledge of current events
- To provide an authentic learning resource

Contents:

- Three news stories
- Vocabulary building activities
- Listening comprehension activities
- Transcripts
- Answer keys

Calgary

October 3, 2016

News story #1 Teenager charged in nightclub shooting death (0:11)

Setting the Scene



Mylan Hicks (Calgary Stampeders) (CBC file photo)

23-year-old Mylan Hicks was a player for the Calgary Stampeders football team. He was at a nightclub with some other members of the team. After a fight with another group of people, Hicks was shot outside the nightclub by a 19-year-old named Tony Lugela.

Pre-listening Questions

What do you know about gun violence in Canada? Do you think shootings are common?

Why do you think this shooting happened? Do you think the men knew each other?

Are nightclubs popular places in your home country? Are they sometimes dangerous?

Vocabulary

Sentence Completion

Learning some of the new words you will hear in the listening will help you understand the news story. Use the vocabulary words below to complete the sentences. *Answers are in the appendix.*

facing (v.)	dealing with something directly
charge (n.)	a statement from the police that someone may have committed a crime
shooting (n.)	an event where someone was shot with a gun
teammates (n.)	people on the same team
celebrating (v.)	doing something special for an important event
arrested (v.)	by law, taking and keeping someone (e.g. a criminal)
released (v.)	allowed to leave a place (e.g. jail)

1. It is my brother's birthday today. We will be _____ at home with a party, cake, and presents.
2. The police took him to the station to ask questions. When they were finished, he was _____, and we went home.
3. She didn't pay her taxes properly last year, so now she is _____ some problems with the government.
4. There was a _____ in the mall last year, so now, security guards check people's bags to see if they have guns.
5. Dennis was _____ for drunk driving after the police saw him drive his car dangerously.
6. Playing sports is a good way to make friends, because sometimes _____ go out together after the game.
7. After the security guard found jewelry and watches in her bag, the police gave her the _____ of stealing.

Extra definitions to help you understand the listening:

second-degree murder – a murder that is deliberate but not planned

We encourage you to study these new words using this link: https://quizlet.com/_2l00bx

You can practice online for free and as many times as you want to. The Quizlet app is a free vocabulary study tool. You can download it to your phone or tablet and practice new vocabulary whenever you have time.

Listening Task

Sequencing

Read the following sentences. Then listen to the audio and write numbers next to the sentences to put the events in the correct order in which they happened in time, not in the order you hear them in the story. The first one has been done as an example. *Answers are in the appendix.*

Order	Event
_____	Mylan Hicks and his teammates went to the Marquee Beer Market and Stage.
_____	Mylan Hicks was shot outside the nightclub.
_____	(Police believe) the two groups moved outside the nightclub.
<u>1</u>	The Calgary Stampeders won a football game.
_____	Nelson Tony Lugela was charged; two other people were arrested and released.
_____	(Police believe) there was a fight inside the nightclub between two groups.
_____	Mylan Hicks died on September 25 th .

Food for Thought

Do you think the nightclub is responsible for Mylan Hicks' death? Could they have done something to help?

What can the Calgary Stampeders can do to honour the memory of Mylan Hicks?

In your country, what do people do when there is a death?

News story #2 Record-breaking audience watches Clinton/Trump debate (1:03)

Setting the Scene



US presidential candidates Donald Trump (*left*) and Hillary Clinton (*right*) at their first debate (Spencer Platt/Getty Images) (CBC File photo)

In November, the United States will elect a new president. The candidates are Donald Trump for the Republican Party, and Hillary Clinton for the Democratic Party. So far, both candidates have been very critical of each other. On Monday, September 26th, Trump and Clinton had their first debate, where they discussed several issues facing the United States. This was the first of three scheduled debates.

Pre-listening Questions

What do you know about Hillary Clinton? What do you know about Donald Trump?

Have you ever watched a political debate? Do you think they help voters choose who to elect?

How does your country choose its leaders? Are there elections? Are they similar to the one in the United States?

Vocabulary

Find the Definition (Multiple Choice)

Learning some of the new words you will hear in the listening will help you understand the news story. Read the sentences below and choose the best definition for the words in **bold**. *Answers are in the appendix.*

1. The university will host a **debate** about public health care in the Faculty of Medicine.
 - a. discussion with different opinions
 - b. contest with one winner
2. Runners Usain Bolt and Andre De Grasse **faced off** in a 100m race.
 - a. had a competition
 - b. had an argument
3. There are sometimes **tensions** between people who eat meat and people who don't.
 - a. a state of feeling sick
 - b. a state of disagreement
4. After the actor said rude things about women, journalists **attacked** him for being sexist.
 - a. said negative things
 - b. connected two things together
5. The mayor went to the hospital, but City Hall **released** a statement saying he is not ill.
 - a. gave up control
 - b. shared with the public
6. Renters **went after** the building owners when they didn't repair the elevator.
 - a. expressed happiness
 - b. expressed blame or bad feelings
7. Many parents **support** the new seatbelt laws for children, since they will keep kids safe.
 - a. are happy about
 - b. need more information about
8. Before the election, the candidates had **polls** to ask citizens their opinion on city issues.
 - a. questions to get people's jobs, salaries, and other information
 - b. questions to get people's opinions on topics

Extra definitions to help you understand the listening:

income tax returns – documents of a person's annual income and other personal information

We encourage you to study these new words using this link: https://quizlet.com/_2l00lk

You can practice online for free and as many times as you want to. The Quizlet app is a free vocabulary study tool. You can download it to your phone or tablet and practice new vocabulary whenever you have time.

Listening Activity

Answering True/False questions

Read the following statements. While you listen to the story, decide whether the statements are **true** or **false**. Write your answer in the blanks.

Answers are in the appendix.

1. ____ 86 million people watched the debate on Monday.
2. ____ The debate was 90 minutes.
3. ____ The debate was at Hofstra University in Hempstead, New Orleans.
4. ____ The debate topics included racial tensions and the fight against melting ice caps.
5. ____ Clinton attacked Trump because he has not released his health records.
6. ____ Trump went after Clinton because she supports trade deals like NAFTA.
7. ____ Trump says that opinion polls found him to be the winner of the debate.
8. ____ The next debate will be on October 19th.

Food for thought

Why do you think so many people around the world discuss U.S. politics? Why are they important? Why is this election important?

When you vote, what type of leader do you usually choose? What kind of experience or personality do you think is important for a leader?

If you were American, which candidate would you choose to be president? Why?

News story #3 Royal tour begins in western Canada (2:02)

Setting the Scene



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau (*far left*), Prince William, the Duke of Cambridge (*middle left*), Justin Trudeau's wife Sophie Grégoire Trudeau (*middle right*) and Catherine ("Kate") the Duchess of Cambridge (*far right*) in Vancouver, Canada (Jonathan Hayward/The Canadian Press) (CBC file photo)

Prince William and his wife Kate Middleton are part of the British Royal Family. They are currently visiting western Canada, including British Columbia and the Yukon, Canada. They have brought their two children, George and Charlotte. Members of the British Royal Family sometimes come to Canada for royal tours. William and Kate first visited Canada in 2011.

Pre-listening Questions

What do you know about Prince William and Kate Middleton?

What kind of places do you think they will visit on their trip to Canada?

Do you think Canadians are excited to have these visitors? Why or why not?

Vocabulary

Synonym Matching

To help you better understand the story, choose the pair of synonyms (words with similar meaning) that best match each of the vocabulary words. *Answers are in the appendix.*

<u>Answer</u>	<u>Word from the story</u>	<u>Synonyms</u>
_____	landed (v.)	a) unusual, uncommon
_____	public (n.)	b) displaced people, immigrants from dangerous situations
_____	rare (adj.)	c) bad habit, strong desire
_____	wave (v.)	d) disagreeing with, objecting to
_____	struggling (v.)	e) people, citizens
_____	addiction (n.)	f) development, advance
_____	refugees (n.)	g) hand movement, shake
_____	protesting (v.)	h) arrive, come down
_____	progress (n.)	i) trying hard, fighting

Extra definitions to help you understand the listening:

VIP – very important person

Prime Minister – the head of a country's government

Premier – a leader in government (e.g., of a province)

Duke and Duchess – the married male and female rulers of a piece of land

First Nations – the people native to Canada, before European settlement

We encourage you to study these new words using this link: https://quizlet.com/_2l00sj

You can practice online for free and as many times as you want to. The Quizlet app is a free vocabulary study tool. You can download it to your phone or tablet and practice new vocabulary whenever you have time.

Listening Activity

Short Answer

Read and answer the questions below. Use vocabulary words in the questions to help you answer the questions. *Answers are in the appendix.*

1. What are the first names of the Duke and Duchess?
2. What are their children's names?
3. When and where did they arrive?
4. Name two people who greeted the Royal Family.
5. They visited a centre in Vancouver. What kind of people did that centre help?
6. They met refugees from which country?
7. What kind of performance did they watch in Whitehorse?
8. Who has not taken part in the Royal visit?
9. What were those people protesting?

Food for thought

The Royals met politicians, social workers, refugees, and First Nations performers. Why do you think they met so many types of people in Canada?

If the Royals came to Alberta, which places would you want to show them? Why?

Do you think Canada's relationship with the Royals is important? Why or why not?

Transcripts of Weekly news stories

	OCTOBER WEEKLY NEWS STORIES	TIME
Introduction	Hi, I'm Shannon Scott and this is Learning English with the CBC for Oct 3 rd with stories that made news over the past week.	0:00
Story 1	A teenager is facing a charge of second degree murder in the shooting death of Mylan Hicks. Hicks died outside a nightclub in Calgary on September 25th. The 23-year-old was a player for the Calgary Stampeders. He was shot outside the Marquee Beer Market and Stage. He was there with some teammates. They were celebrating the Stampeders' win earlier that night. Police believe a fight inside the nightclub between two groups moved outside. That is where the shooting took place. 19-year-old Nelson Tony Lugela has been charged in connection with his death. Two other people were arrested, but they were released without being charged.	0:11
Story 2	A record-breaking 84 million people watched the first debate of the U-S Presidential race on Monday. For 90 minutes, Hilary Clinton and Donald Trump faced off on stage at Hofstra University in Hempstead, New York. They debated topics including taxes, racial tensions, and the fight against ISIS. Clinton attacked Trump because he has not released his income tax returns. Trump went after Clinton for her support of trade deals, including NAFTA. Many people believe Clinton won the debate. Trump disagrees, saying many opinion polls found <u>him</u> to be the winner. There are two more debates scheduled. One on October 9th, the other on October 19th.	1:03
Story 3	The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and their two children have arrived in Canada. William and Kate along with Prince George and Princess Charlotte landed in British Columbia on Saturday. As they got off the plane, the public got a rare look at the two Royal Children. George waved to the crowd while Charlotte was held in her mother's arms. The family was greeted by a number of VIPs, including Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and BC Premier Christie Clark. The Duke and Duchess have had a busy schedule. They spent time in Vancouver visiting a centre that helps mothers struggling with addiction. They also met with a group of refugees who have come to Canada from Syria. Then they went to Bella Bella and Kelowna before going to the Yukon. In Whitehorse, the couple watched First Nations cultural performances and took a tour of the city's museum. Not everyone is happy with the Royal visit. Many First Nations leaders have not taken part in the visit. They were protesting because they do not believe there has been enough progress on indigenous issues by the provincial and federal governments.	2:02

Answer keys

News story 1 Teenager charged in nightclub shooting death

Vocabulary

1. It is my brother's birthday today. We will be celebrating at home with a party, cake, and presents.
2. The police took him to the station to ask questions. When they were finished, he was released, and we went home.
3. She didn't pay her taxes properly last year, so now she is facing some problems with the government.
4. There was a shooting in the mall last year, so now, security guards check people's bags to see if they have guns.
5. Dennis was arrested for drunk driving after the police saw him drive his car dangerously.
6. Playing sports is a good way to make friends, because sometimes teammates go out together after the game.
7. After the security guard found jewelry and watches in her bag, the police gave her the charge of stealing.

Listening

Order	Event
<u>2</u>	Mylan Hicks and his teammates went to the Marquee Beer Market and Stage.
<u>5</u>	Mylan Hicks was shot outside the nightclub.
<u>4</u>	(Police believe) the two groups moved outside the nightclub.
<u>1</u>	The Calgary Stampeders won a football game.
<u>7</u>	Nelson Tony Lugela was charged; two other people were arrested and released.
<u>3</u>	(Police believe) there was a fight inside the nightclub between two groups.
<u>6</u>	Mylan Hicks died on September 25 th .

News story 2 - Record-breaking audience watches Clinton/Trump debate

Vocabulary

1. The university will host a **debate** about public health care in the Faculty of Medicine.
a. Discussion with different opinions
b. Contest with one winner
2. Runners Usain Bolt and Andre De Grasse **faced off** in a 100m race.
a. Had a competition
b. Had an argument
3. There are sometimes **tensions** between people who eat meat and people who don't.
a. A state of feeling sick
b. A state of disagreement
4. After the actor said rude things about women, journalists **attacked** him for being sexist.
a. Said negative things
b. Connected two things together
5. The mayor went to the hospital, but City Hall **released** a statement saying he's not ill.
a. Gave up control
b. Shared with the public
6. Renters **went after** the building owners when they didn't repair the elevator.
a. Expressed happiness
b. Expressed blame or bad feelings
7. Many parents **support** the new seatbelt laws for children, since they will keep kids safe.
a. Are happy about
b. Need more information about
8. Before the election, the candidates ran **polls** to ask citizens their opinion on city issues.
a. Questions to get people's jobs, salaries, and other information
b. Questions to get people's opinions on topics

Listening

1. **F** 86 million people watched the debate on Monday.
2. **T** The debate was 90 minutes.
3. **F** The debate was at Hofstra University in Hempstead, New Orleans.
4. **F** The debate topics included racial tensions and the fight against melting ice caps.

5. F Clinton attacked Trump because he has not released his health records.
6. T Trump went after Clinton because she supports trade deals like NAFTA.
7. T Trump says that opinion polls found him to be the winner of the debate.
8. F The next debate will be on October 19th.

News story 3 Royal Tour begins in western Canada

Vocabulary

<u>Answer</u>	<u>Word from the story</u>	<u>Synonyms</u>
<u>h</u>	landed (v.)	a) unusual, uncommon
<u>e</u>	public (n.)	b) displaced people, immigrants from dangerous situations
<u>a</u>	rare (adj.)	c) bad habit, strong desire
<u>g</u>	wave (v.)	d) disagreeing with, objecting to
<u>i</u>	struggling (v.)	e) people, citizens
<u>c</u>	addiction (n.)	f) development, advance
<u>b</u>	refugees (n.)	g) hand movement, shake
<u>d</u>	protesting (v.)	h) arrive, come down
<u>f</u>	progress (n.)	i) trying hard, fighting

Listening

1. What are the first names of the Duke and Duchess?

William and Kate

2. What are their children's names?

George and Charlotte

3. When and where did they arrive?

British Columbia, on Saturday

4. Name two people who greeted the Royal Family.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, B.C. Premier Chrstie Clark

5. They visited a centre in Vancouver. What kind of people did that centre help?

mothers struggling with addiction

6. They met refugees from which country?

Syria

7. What kind of performance did they watch in Whitehorse?

a First Nations cultural performance

8. Who has not taken part in the Royal visit?

many First Nations leaders

9. What were those people protesting?

not enough progress on indigenous issues by provincial/federal governments